

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON THE SERIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL

WHEREAS, the Arizona Supreme Court, in Arnold v. Arizona Department of Health Services, affirmed a ruling by the Maricopa County Superior Court that the State has breached its statutory duty to provide mental health care to the chronically (seriously) mentally ill ("SMI") people of our state.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the state to present a plan to reform the state's system for the SMI.

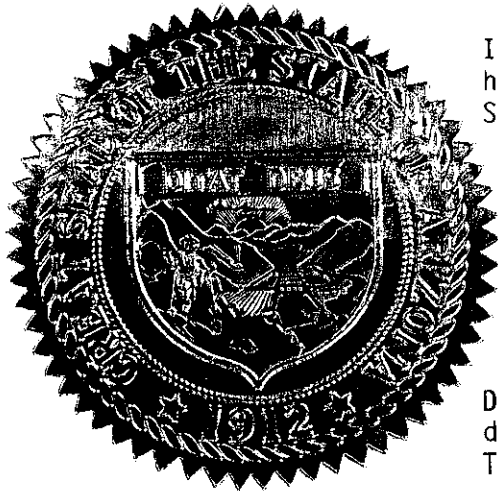
WHEREAS, the Supreme Court ruling provides the state with an impetus to marshall the state's resources in an effort not only to comply with the Court's ruling, but also to bring Arizona into the mainstream of those states which are providing that quality care can be achieved.

WHEREAS, the state must devise a cost effective system of comprehensive services responsive to the needs of the SMI and their families in every part of the state and provide for its funding and implementation.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arizona by the Constitution and the laws of this state, I, ROSE MOFFORD, hereby create the Governor's Task Force on the Seriously Mentally Ill. I order and Direct the Task Force to:

1. Review the decision of the Arizona Supreme Court in Arnold, and prepare a plan which comports with the intent and requirements of the court's decision. In doing so, the Task Force shall work with interested parties to evaluate current state law, public policies, and procedures regarding the treatment of the SMI in Arizona.
2. Solicit comments, opinions, and suggestions from interested and involved public officials, public agencies, private groups, affected populations, and the general public including our counties, universities and medical school, the Department of Health Services, AHCCCS, the Department of Economic Security and the Department of Insurance.
3. Identify specific state health care services, educational needs, housing opportunities, insurance availability, and all other rehabilitative and support services required by the SMI.
4. Develop a comprehensive phasing implementation plan to bring Arizona into the mainstream of those states who have demonstrated that quality care can be delivered cost effectively.
5. Consider any other issues, programs, or proposals that the Governor and the Chairperson of the Task Force believe are appropriately related to the responsibilities of the Task Force.
6. Submit a final report containing findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House by October 1, 1989.

The Task Force shall consist of an Executive Committee and an Advisory Committee to the Task Force of such number as may be appropriate and shall be appointed by, and serve without compensation, and at the pleasure of the Governor and meet at the call of the Chairperson. I hereby designate S. L. Schorr, as Chairperson of this Task Force.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

Rose Moffat
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix this Ninth day of May in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Nine and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirteenth.

ATTEST:

Jim Shumway

Secretary of State

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